To rename the Sports Authority of India as a "Stadia Authority of India", I fear that this is not the direction where we intend to take the Sports Authority of India.

So far as the last part of Kalmadiji's question regarding tax benefits is concerned, we have taken a decision and amended the Income Tax Act in respect of industrial houses who contribute towards the creation of sports infrastructure for promotion of sports in the country. Over that investment there would be a hundred per cent tax benefit which would be given to the industrial house or anybody else. I am happy to inform the House that ten such proposals have already been cleared. In the next few days, two more proposals would be cleared. The various proposals which have already been cleared by the committee crores.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 45.

Mineral Exploitation by the Multinationals

*45. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the major and minor minerals that can be offered for exploitation to the multinationals;

(b) the foreign investment assurances received by the Government till date.

(c) whether some foreign companies have sought reduction in royalty rates; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Any company registered in India is eligible for grant of prospecting licence/mining lease in respect of non-fuel and non-atomic minerals.

(b) The Government has not received any assurances from foreign investors.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Periodical revision in the rates of royalty on minerals is made as per the relevant provisions of the MM(R&D) Act, 1957.

SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have specifically asked whether there was any demand from some foreign companies or multinationals for reduction in royalty rates. Revision can also be upward. I want to know specifically if there was a downward revision in royalty which was demanded.

श्री बलराम सिंह यादव : कृपया आप दुबारा रिपीट कर दें प्रश्न को ।

श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र : यह एक अच्छी टैक्निक है, क्वेश्चन रिपीट कर दें, तब तक तो आप टाइम ओवर कर देंगे ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am afraid there is no time to repeat it. Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Women benefiting from Rashtriya Mahila Kosh

*41. SHRIMATI SARALA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only 37066 women were benefited from the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh during the year 1993-94;

(b) whether Government have any plan to increase the activities of the Kosh in the coming year to cover at least 5 per cent of the women population of the country during the Eighth plan period; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Rachtriya Mahila Kosh, which was set up on 30.03.1993 and commenced lending in November, 1993, plans to cover 2 lakh women during the first 6 years of its operation.

Schools receiving assistance for sports

*46. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many of the 59 schools, receiving assistance under the National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) Scheme, have sports infrasturctures like playing fields, swimming pools; gymnasium board and lodging facilities;

(b) how many of these schools are Municipal Corporation managed; and

(c) how the activities of thire schools are being monitored?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The Schools adopted under NTSC Scheme have the sports infreastructure required for training decisplines selected for that school. 47 of the schools are at present functional.

(b) 16 schools are Government schools and managed by Municipal Corporation and Educational Boards.

(c) The Regional Centres of Sports Authority of India monitor the activities of these schools by organising competitions between different schools. Also the coaches posted by the SAI in the school keep assessing the performance and report to SAI.

Quantum of water in the rivers of Punjab

*47. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment as to the quantum of water in the rivers of Punjab has been made: if so, the details thereof;

(b) what portion of such water is utilized;

(c) the total requirement of water for Punjab for irrigation purposes; and

(d) what requirement of irrigation is fulfilled by river-waters?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir. The mean annual availability of the three rivers, namely, Ravi, Beas and Sutlej which flow through Punjab is around 42.5 Billion Cubic Metres.

(b) As per the water accounts maintained by Bhakra Beas Management Board the average annual Utilisation during the last five years is 33.65 Billion Cubic Metres.

(c) and (d) River waters fulfil the irrigation requirements of Punjab to an extent of 18.2 Billion Cubic Metres and Ground water to an extent of 12.83 Billion Cubic Metres.

Sutlej

*48. SHRI K. R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of Sutlej-Yamuna Link Canal construction is progressing satisfactorily; and

(b) by when it is expected to be completed and become operational?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Since the killing of the Chief Engineer and a Superintending Engineer of the Project in July 1990; construction work of Sutlej Yamuna Link Canal has come to a halt.

(b) The time schedule for completing theproject will depend upon the nature and capasity of the Agency/ Agencies to be engaged by Government of Punjab.